

BERZINS, Alfreds

23 July 1954

R.I. File [ ] is a memorandum dated 15 June 1951 from the Acting Chief, Psychological Staff Division, attaching a copy of a letter from Bruno KALNINS to SCHILLER, dated 16 May 1951. KALNINS, in his letter, claims that the Latvian panel in the National Committee for a Free Europe has been made up completely anti-democratically and unrepresentatively. He states further that there is no Labor representative of its seven members and that all seven are politicians of the Right-Wing and some of them are even known as men of anti-Democratic opinion. He states: "A Berzins was the minister of propaganda in Ulmanis government of National Dictatorship (1934-1940) who is well-known from this time to every Latvian as a destroyer of democracy. He and his dictatorship established also the first concentration camp in Latvia where several thousands of Latvian Labor officials were imprisoned."

R.I. File 100-2-28-720 contains a name check report on Subject, dated 27 February 1951, and directed to Personnel Security Branch from Staff C. The report contains an elaboration of the biographical data on Subject. Also it reports that two single sources state the following regarding Subject without further elaboration:

- a. "Formerly a Minister in the Ulmanis Cabinet in Latvia, who was in touch with the Japanese in Helsinki in 1940, through whom he obtained a Manchurian passport. (BERZINS is an adventurer and untrustworthy.)"
- b. "Gestapo Agent. Betrayed to Gestapo the Director of the firm 'Ostlandfilm' and caused two members of the firm to be placed in a concentration camp". (1945 information).

R.I. File [ ] is an applicant information sheet on Subject, and contains an elaboration of some of the information on the Biographical Data Sheet.

R.I. File 210-130-2, dated 29 December 1950, is a memorandum from the Chief, EE, in which the following is stated: "Our information on BERZINS indicates a history of noteworthy service as a public official of the pre-World War II Latvian republic. He has extensive knowledge of, and contacts in, the Latvian emigre community. As far as his operational potential to EE-II, it is not believed that he has significant contacts or organization for the operational penetration of the Latvian SSR. Quite apart from the question of BERZINS as an individual, however, is the question of BERZINS

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as a representative of ABN. Any relationship with BERZINS would involve us, willingly or not, with ABN. Therefore, it is recommended that OPC abstain from any involvement with BERZINS or ABN at this time."

R.I. File 32-7-10-77 contains a series of photographs of documents in connection with Subject's applications with the U.S. Displaced Persons Commission in Germany in 1950. Additional biographical details are contained therein, with nothing of a derogatory nature.

R.I. File 200-7-2-181, enclosure 1, DFB-24065, is a government agency report, dated 15 January 1953, and reports that Subject, 114 West 71 Street, was then employed by the Latvian Freedom Committee, New York City. Subject advised that he was associated with the Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of Nations (ABN) while a displaced person in Europe about 1947 to 1948. Also that at that time he had been president of the Nationalities Council of ABN, but had ceased membership after coming to the United States. Subject stated that while the ABN is definitely anti-Communist, he no longer shares their viewpoint and policy as to the best way to bring about Russia's downfall, and feels that ABN is presently a more theoretical than an active force against Communism.

The following R.I. Files were charged off or missing and were not reviewed:

28-7-7-y2  
Latinia, Registry  
OHRB-882, 14 October 1953, KAPOK  
BR/OCD, 657, BR 0020136  
100-7-24-20, DFB-22229, enclosure 1, page 6, see SR/2.  
100-134-5.131, 4 December 1950  
200-7-8-29, DOE-1173, see RI/TY  
100-3-28-720, see in files  
200-7-229-725, see HEA/1  
100-134-5.131, 27 February 1951  
211-130-2, 27 December 1950  
DFB-24795, enclosure 1, page 7  
74-6-34-2-454, OSSA-338, Att."A", see RI/SC  
OOC4-841, 16 September 1953, Kapok  
100-134-1-6, 26 February 1951  
100-134-5.131, 15 February 1951  
100-134-5.13, 9 February 1951  
74-6-3-59, page 28, enclosure 7  
71-6-4-1075, RPTA-578, enclosure 1, page 5, see SR  
Cable-007 78927, 3 August 1953, Dir 14416  
100-134-5.121, 2 October 1950  
Sweden-Cable-CUT 68892  
100-3-28-1047, Enclosure 10  
Cable - IN 48230, 6 August 1953  
74-6-13-2085, MIMA-9463, page 2, see SR      Special Agent  
74-6-13-1020, MIMA-6887, see SR      Special Referral Branch  
74-6-34-1-99, EGQW, 1548, see SR